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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY
LANSING



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Guidance for Surface Water Testing Procedures

The Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) has made some significant changes to how Surface Water samples will be accepted for submission to the laboratory.

- 1) The laboratory will only test Surface Water samples for E. coli. Samples submitted for general fecal testing or surface water chemical testing will not be analyzed.
- 2) The laboratory will offer two dilution levels. Please call your local County Sanitarian to determine which dilution level will be appropriate for your sampling needs.
- 3) Samples submitted for E. coli testing must be scheduled in advance by calling the laboratory at 517-335-8184. Indicate to customer service staff that you are bringing in a Surface Water sample for E. coli analysis. Samples submitted without an advance call may not be analyzed by the laboratory.
- 4) Samples for E. coli testing can only be submitted Monday through Thursday during the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- 5) Samples **must** be delivered to the laboratory within 6 hours of collection in order to allow for analysis completion by the laboratory. Samples received outside of the 6 hours but before the 8-hour EPA hold time for this analysis **may** be analyzed by the laboratory if it has the ability to do so. Samples received by mail, UPS, FEDEX will not be analyzed.
- 6) Samples must be delivered to the laboratory **in a cooler on ice or with frozen ice packs**. Samples received without ice, a cooler or with unfrozen ice packs will be rejected for analysis.
- 7) Samples that are frozen or contain ice will be rejected for analysis.
- 8) Samples with improperly completed forms or in a bottle other than EGLE unit 30 will be rejected for analysis.
- 9) The laboratory has a new form to be used for Surface Water submissions. Please call 517-335-8184 to order the sampling kits or other materials needed for submission.
- 10) Fill samples between lines on bottle to ensure proper mixing.

**If you have any questions, please call the laboratory at 517-335-8184
Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**